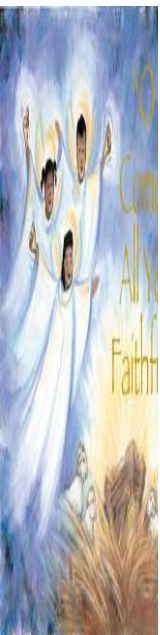


**Saint Peter  
School News  
January, 2024**

Dear Parents,

As we now enter fully into the beautiful Christmas season with its undeniable message of great love that God has showered upon us, let us meditate on the special meaning and importance of the Nativity Scene. Let us consider the faith of the 3 Kings who journeyed in faith following the light of Christ. Faith is also the virtue we highlight in school for the month of January. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis speaks so beautifully on the journey of the 3 Wise Men and its application to our daily lives: "Like a rising star, Jesus comes to enlighten all peoples and to brighten the nights of humanity. Today, with the Magi, let us lift our eyes to heaven and ask: "Where is the child who has been born?" Where can we find and encounter our Lord? From the experience of the Magi, we learn that the first "place" where he loves to be sought is in *restless questioning*. The exciting adventure of these Wise Men from the East teaches us that faith is not born of our own merits, thoughts and theories. Rather, it is God's gift. His grace helps us to shake off our apathy and opens our minds to ask the important questions in life. Questions that challenge us to leave behind our presumption that everything is fine, questions that open us to what is beyond us. For the Magi, that was the beginning: the restlessness of those willing to ask questions. Filled with yearning for the infinite, they scan the heavens, find themselves marvelling at the brilliance of a star, and experience the quest for the transcendent that inspires the progress of civilizations and the tireless seeking of the human heart. The star left them with a question: *Where is the child who has been born?* Brothers and sisters, the journey of faith begins whenever, by God's grace, we make room for the restlessness that keeps us awake and alert. It begins when we are willing to ask questions, when we are dissatisfied with our daily routine and take seriously the challenges of each new day. When we step out of our comfort zone and decide to confront the uncomfortable aspects of life: our relationships with others, unexpected events, projects needing to be undertaken, dreams to be realized, fears to be faced, physical and mental sufferings. At such times, deep in our hearts, we find ourselves before the irrepressible questions that lead us to seek the Lord: Where do I find happiness? Where do I find that fullness of life to which I aspire? Where do I find a love that does not fade away, a love that endures even in the face of frailty, failure and betrayal? What hidden opportunities are present in the midst of my crises and my sufferings?... Without a continuous journey in constant dialogue with the Lord, without attentive listening to his word, without perseverance, faith cannot grow. It is not enough to entertain some vague idea about God, to say some prayer that salves our consciences. We need to become disciples, following Jesus and his Gospel, bringing everything to him in prayer, seeking him in the events of our daily lives and in the faces of our brothers and sisters... Let us ask for the courage to continue our journey, and let us finish in worship! Let us not be afraid, for this is the path of the Magi, the path of all the saints throughout history: to welcome our restlessness, to set out and to worship....

Then we will discover that a light shines even in the darkest nights: the light of Jesus, the radiant morning star, the sun of justice the merciful splendor of God, who loves every man and woman, and all the peoples of the earth."



**IHM Junior Companions**

We look forward to another year of our 5th through 8th grade students learning about our IHM charism and growing in their spiritual journey. Sister Margaret will meet monthly with:  
 Britney Martinez (8) Sarai Paniagua (7)  
 Isabella Gonzalez (7) Xitlali Uribe (5)



**Honor Roll**

We congratulate our many students who received 1st or 2nd Honors on their first Report Card:

- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b><u>First Honors</u></b>  | Denian Garcia (4)          |
| Luciana Carrillo (3)        | Samantha Martinez (4)      |
| Elijah Castillo (3)         | Rita Ramirez (4)           |
| Esther Corona (3)           | Jesus Reyes (4)            |
| Jackson Gallo (3)           | Valerie Torres (4)         |
| Iker Moreno (4)             | Kendo Varela (4)           |
| Alejandro Cruz (5)          | Maria Martinez (5)         |
| Emilio Perez (5)            | Montserrat Martinez (5)    |
| Hadassa Perez (6)           | Naleigha Merritt (5)       |
| Lisbeth Perez-Savinon(6)    | Danilynn Muñoz (5)         |
| Annalise Sierra (6)         | Kiara Navarrete-Rojas (5)  |
| Angel Vargas (6)            | Mariangel Polanco (5)      |
| Janellys Abreu (7)          | Jorge Rodriguez (5)        |
| Nathalie Buenano (7)        | Carlos Sanchez (5)         |
| Ana Frias (7)               | Rocky Taveras(5)           |
| Isabella Gonzalez (7)       | Xitlali Uribe (5)          |
| Jiovani Peña (7)            | Janelle Abreu (6)          |
| Dulcemaria Ramirez (7)      | Jotxiel Caraballo (6)      |
| Saray Rodriguez (7)         | Nyleah Connor (6)          |
| Jenelsie Espinal (8)        | Adalis DeLaCruz(6)         |
| Mariana Jeronimo (8)        | Asley Duran-Bautista (6)   |
| Britney Martinez (8)        | Emily Frias (6)            |
| Tiffany Rodriguez (8)       | Khalaya Johnson (6)        |
| Javier Sandoval-Cruz(8)     | Joendrys Marquez (6)       |
| Milagros Solis (8)          | Misael Moreno (6)          |
| Josander Tavarez (8)        | Arianna Ortiz (6)          |
| Jasmine Vargas (8)          | Manuel de Jesus Ramirez(6) |
| Jovanna Zabala (8)          | Jossany Santos (6)         |
| <b><u>Second Honors</u></b> | Alexa Torres (6)           |
| Jazlyn Covington (3)        | Viviana Cruz (7)           |
| Jariel Echevarria (3)       | Diego Ortiz (7)            |
| Marcus Fernandez (3)        | Chris Yepez-Gutierrez (8)  |
| Shan Haynes-Ali, Jr. (3)    | Karina Andrade (8)         |
| Joannie Menegildo (3)       | Gabriela Caoloca-Ortiz (8) |
| Clamondie Pierre (3)        | Juan Diego Castañeda(8)    |
| Michael Rodriguez (3)       | Erika Espinal (8)          |
| Joniel Sierra-Iona (3)      | Daisy Moreno (8)           |
| Loyal Spradley (3)          | Isai Rivera (8)            |
| Oliver Yepez (3)            | Gabriela Rosas (8)         |
| Alyvia Barreto (4)          | Anabel Salvador (8)        |
| Missael Fernandez (4)       | Jose Sanchez (8)           |



**Kitchen Kapers at Saint Peter School**

We look forward to the delicious treats which will come our way from the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade future chefs during the week of January 22. The final round of the County Competition will take place on Saturday, February 10 at Sacred Heart School.

